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## Resolution 1987-08-10 Opposition to Federal Fishery Licensing

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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## **Resolution No. 7**

### **OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 7 RELATING TO CALIFORNIA DESERT PROTECTION**

WHEREAS, federal legislation proposed by Senate Bill 7 and related measures will make changes in the desert area of southern California by altering land use and reassigning federal agency responsibilities;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 7 would create approximately 8.8 million acres of wilderness including approximately 5.7 million acres of national parks, and enlarge existing national monuments and redesignate them as national parks;

WHEREAS, national park classification would preempt state fish and wildlife management responsibilities on such lands;

WHEREAS, national park classification of these lands would severely restrict freedom of movement on publicly owned lands and make programs for species recovery more difficult;

WHEREAS, the state's control over its fish and resident wildlife and other resources within its border is of utmost concern and must be retained by the state;

WHEREAS, a comprehensive land use plan for the management, use, development and protection of public lands in the California Desert Conservation Area has been developed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management after five years of public input and debate and approved in 1980 and 1981 by both the Democratic and Republican administrations;

WHEREAS, the California Desert Conservation Area Plan, including wilderness recommendations, is currently under way;

WHEREAS, 57 significant natural areas have been designated to protect areas of special concern;

WHEREAS, full funding and implementation of the California Desert Conservation Area Plan would obviate such an extreme approach, as exemplified by Senate Bill 7;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies opposes any action that will reduce any state's right to manage its resident fish and wildlife resources;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Bureau of Land Management be allowed to implement its California Desert plan, as the necessary land protections can be accomplished through said plan.

## **Resolution No. 8**

### **OPPOSITION TO FEDERAL FISHERY LICENSING**

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has drafted an administration bill relating to a federal fishery licensing system for consideration by the Congress of the United States;

WHEREAS, the proposed title of the bill is the "Marine Fishing

Conservation Assurance Program Act of 1987”;

WHEREAS, the Act proposes to require that states develop and implement procedures for sale of the federal marine fish conservation permits and stamps;

WHEREAS, the Act proposes to include marine tidal waters thereby preempting jurisdictional control of the coastal states;

WHEREAS, fees collected are to be distributed to states for expending on projects according to the Act when the same fees are needed by states to be used as matching for federal aid projects;

WHEREAS, it would be unlawful to fish or sell fish caught in coastal waters without a federal permit and stamp;

WHEREAS, the states must enact state laws equal to the federal prohibitions in the Act and enforce the provisions;

WHEREAS, the proposal will mandate enforcement to states in non-territorial Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) waters without jurisdiction over management of the resource in the same area;

WHEREAS, the Act would mandate charging resident fishermen the permit and stamp fees in addition to fees already established thereby causing monetary hardship on resident fishermen;

WHEREAS, the Act would extend state enforcement into the 200-mile EEZ thereby causing extreme hardship to the states since the EEZ is so large and fishermen cannot be controlled by each state because the Act would allow equal access to fishermen;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is opposed to federal licensing of fish and wildlife users and reaffirms its conviction that user licensing for hunting, fishing and trapping is a prerogative of the states and must remain as such.

## **Resolution No. 9**

### **ANIMAL TRAP STANDARDS**

WHEREAS, efforts have been initiated to develop international standards for humane animal traps through the International Organization for Standardization (ISO);

WHEREAS, standards are being developed for kill-type traps in Canada;

WHEREAS, a fur consuming country could decide not to allow import of furs from a producing nation which has not adopted international trap standards;

WHEREAS, a Technical Advisory Group has been formed by the American National Standards Institute, U.S. representative to the ISO, to develop standards for restraining type traps;

WHEREAS, this matter is of interest and potential significance to all state fish and wildlife agencies and three members of the Technical Advisory Group are from state agencies;

WHEREAS, development of improved trapping devices is consistent with International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' policy;